

AGREEMENT REACHED FOR NEW SANTA CLARA COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER


IN JANUARY 2001, the City Council/Morgan Hill Redevelopment Agency (Agency) approved a development agreement with the County of Santa Clara to build a new South County Justice Center in Morgan Hill. The Justice Center will include six courthouses, court administrative offices, and offices for the District Attorney, Public Defender and other related facilities/offices.

The County has indicated that the eight acre site at Diane Ave. and Butterfield Blvd. is the preferred site for the Courthouse. In addition to best meeting the County's criteria for a site, this court facility will act as a catalyst for future development of other related offices and services downtown. The site is also the preferred site for a new Morgan Hill Police Station - as well as a possible site for a new fire station. The Police and Fire Stations would be master planned with the Courthouse to ensure the compatibility of such uses as parking, traffic circulation, design, and landscaping

The Agency is in the process of acquiring the preferred property. Over the next 12 months, the County will be preparing an environmental impact report (EIR) that should begin with a public scoping meeting in the early

summer. This initial meeting is intended to solidify the environmental issues and the approach to those issues that will be addressed in the EIR.

Preliminary design concepts will be presented at the scoping meeting and the public will have the opportunity to comment on environmental issues associated with the courthouse project. City residents will be notified of the exact date, time, and location of the scoping meeting to be held in Morgan Hill. In addition to the County's scoping meetings, there will be future public hearings by the Planning Commission and City Council to consider the general plan amendment and rezoning request for the Courthouse site.

The County's goal is to complete design of the Courthouse in the Fall of 2003 with construction to begin in Winter 2004. They hope to have the facility open in Fall 2005. 

Article by Garrett Toy, Director of Business Assistance and Housing Services, 776-7373 or bahs@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov

NEW & IMPROVED CITY WEBSITE

WE'RE ALL inundated with advertising campaigns promising "new" and "improved" products and services. While you won't see our ads on prime time, we think the revised City of Morgan Hill website merits the "new and improved" designation - but don't take our word for it, see for yourself at www.morgan-hill.ca.gov.

The City's former site, designed in 1998, was clearly due for a remodel. In 2001 the City solicited input from residents on how to improve the site. Their feedback was used to completely redesign the website. "We wanted to make

SEE "WEBSITE", PAGE 2



I N S I D E T H I S I S S U E

-  **A SPECIAL PULL OUT SECTION: REPORT TO CONSUMERS ON WATER QUALITY IN 2001**
-  **NOVEMBER 5 - ELECTION DAY**
-  **RENTAL APPLICATION SCHEDULE**
-  **STREET WORK UPDATES**



"WEBSITE", FROM PAGE 1


it easy for visitors to find the information they are seeking, without having to know how the City is organized to provide services," comments Melissa Stevenson Dile, Assistant to the City Manager and coordinator of the website redesign. "We also wanted a more professional design which reflects Morgan Hill's lovely natural setting." The new site meets current disability accessibility guidelines as well.

If you'd like to apply for a job, obtain an animal license, request a police report or apply for bingo, taxi or entertainment permits, you can now do so online. Some of these forms may require additional documentation, but you'll be able to get the process started on the website. Even more City forms, applications, and documents can be viewed online or downloaded and completed manually.

We also added more information about City services. Common navigation aids such as "Search" and "Quick Find" buttons make it easier to find just what you are looking for, and a new Citizen Inquiry/Feedback form allows you to inquire about (or provide feedback on) City services electronically.

We encourage you to visit the revised site, and to tell us what you think. See the June City Visions for information about the City's special contest for website visitors. It will feature unique prizes such as a personal tour of the Community Center construction site and other opportunities to see City operations up close.

"We believe the new site is a significant improvement, and look forward to responses from site visitors," notes Dile. Suggestions for future improvements are welcome as well, as the website will continue to evolve.


City staff worked with communications firm e21 to redesign the site, which is hosted by South Valley Internet in San Martin. 

MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2002

THE CITY of Morgan Hill will be holding a Municipal Election on November 5, 2002 to elect a Mayor and two Councilmembers. Councilmembers are elected to four-year terms, while the Mayor is elected to a two-year term.

For citizens who may be interested in seeking one of these elected offices, you must be a resident of the City of Morgan Hill and a registered voter at the time you pull nomination papers.

The nomination filing period for the November 5th election is July 15th through August 9th. A five day filing extension period is scheduled through August 14th, should an incumbent fail to file a Declaration of Candidacy by the August 9th filing deadline. No incumbent(s) may file during the extended filing period.

The City of Morgan Hill contracts election services with the County of Santa Clara, Registrar of Voters, in order to keep election expenses to a minimum. For further information, please contact the City Clerk's office at 779-7259. 

Article by Irma Torrez, City Clerk, 779-7259

OUR FIRE PROTECTION FUTURE

THE CITY Council recently adopted an update to the City's Fire and Emergency Medical Master Plan. Led by a diverse Citizen's Task Force, the planning effort evaluated the community's future service needs and alternatives for meeting them. The Plan's recommendations include:


- Establishing a new "center city" fire station;
- Increasing the overall number of firefighters on duty from the current level of eight up to twelve;
- Establish a contract with the South County Fire Protection District to augment the services provided by the County Fire Department; and
- Implement a more extensive citizen "self-help" and preparation program throughout the community.

City staff are now meeting with our local providers to discuss implementing the Plan's recommendations and identifying mechanisms for financing the system improvements. 

Article by Anthony Eulo, Assistant To The City Manager, 779-7247 or teulo@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov



HOUSE CALL SAVES MONEY


CONSERVING WATER can save you money and extend our valuable resources. To obtain information on water saving tips, please call 800-548-1882 to access the Water-Wise House Call Program. This program is a joint effort of the Santa Clara Valley Water District and City of Morgan Hill. 

Article by Mori Struve, Deputy Director of Public Works, 776-7333 or moris@pw.morgan-hill.ca.gov

RENTAL PROGRAM APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED BEGINNING JULY 1

THE CITY will begin accepting applications for its Below Market Rate Rental Program after 8:00 a.m. on July 1. Due to outdated information on existing applications, it is necessary to purge the current list and create a new waiting list.

Application packets will be available to the public on May 20. If a person is on the current list or has called and left their name and address, they should receive their information packet and application in the mail. (Note: This is for the Rental Program only. Information on the Below Market Rate Ownership Program list is not substantially outdated and is not being purged.)


Applications will only be accepted after 8:00 a.m. on Monday, July 1, and will be accepted and prioritized on a first come, first served basis. Applications may be submitted in person to the Business Assistance and Housing Services office at 17555 Peak Avenue, West Annex. 

If you have any questions, please contact us at 776-7373.

NEW LOOK, IMPROVED ACCESSIBILITY FOR WARREN/HALE AREA RESIDENTS

THE PUBLIC Works Department is nearing completion of the design work for the Warren/Hale/Nob Hill Terrace Street Improvement Project. This project will construct new curbs, gutters, sidewalks, sanitary sewer mains, storm drains, and roadway pavement on portions of Warren Avenue, Hale Avenue, and Nob Hill Terrace. New water service will also be provided to these homes.

Roadway pavement improvements include both overlay and full reconstruction. The “overlay” work will protect and preserve the surface condition, thus helping to maintain the structural integrity, while at the same time restoring the surface texture and the skid resistance of the roadway. Maintaining a good pavement condition also helps minimize the future street maintenance cost.

After the roadway is paved, new traffic stripes will be painted to improve vehicle operation including stop bars, raised pavement marker, and legends. Over 1,000 linear feet of new sidewalks, curbs and gutters is planned. Some driveway restoration work behind the sidewalk will ensure that there is an accessible and safe walking environment for pedestrians. Construction will take approximately 90 working days, with work anticipated to be completed in October. 

Article by Jay Jaso, Management Analyst, 776-7337 or jayj@pw.morgan-hill.ca.gov

MORGAN HILL COMMUNITY GUIDE

CHANNEL 17 PROGRAMMING

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

REGULAR SESSION: 6/5 7PM LIVE
6/6 NOON REPLAY
6/8 8PM REPLAY
6/9 NOON REPLAY

REGULAR SESSION: 6/19 7PM LIVE
6/20 NOON REPLAY
6/22 8PM REPLAY
6/23 NOON REPLAY

JOINT RDA SESSION: 6/26 7PM LIVE
6/27 NOON REPLAY
6/29 8PM REPLAY
6/30 NOON REPLAY

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

REGULAR SESSION: 6/11 7PM LIVE
6/12 NOON REPLAY
6/15 8PM REPLAY
6/16 NOON REPLAY

REGULAR SESSION: 6/25 7PM LIVE
6/26 NOON REPLAY
6/29 NOON REPLAY
6/30 8PM REPLAY

SPARKY'S FIRE SAFETY FOR KIDS 9:30AM & 4:30PM DAILY
FRIDAY 7PM

MAYOR'S STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS 02 10:00AM & 5:00PM DAILY
FRIDAY 7:30PM

FUGITIVE WATCH 10:30AM, & 5:30PM DAILY
SANTA CLARA COUNTY'S MOST WANTED FRIDAY 8:00PM

COMMUNITY EVENTS CALENDAR



Friday Night Music Series Begins • May 31

Compost Workshop • June 15

Attendees of Morgan Hill Home Composting workshops discover the benefits of gardening using their own compost. The next class is scheduled for Saturday, June 15, from 10AM-12Noon at the YMCA. To register for this free workshop, call the Home Composting Education Program at 918-4640.

First Day of Summer • June 21



City Offices Closed • July 4

Regular garbage and recycling services.



CITY ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor **Dennis Kennedy** 779-7259
Mayor Pro Tempore **Larry Carr** 779-9622
Councilmember **Hedy L. Chang** 778-0511
Councilmember **Greg Sellers** 778-2370
Councilmember **Steve Tate** 779-6992
City Clerk **Irma Torrez** 779-7259
City Treasurer **Michael Roorda** 778-3653

CITY EXECUTIVE STAFF

City Manager **J. Edward Tewes**
City Attorney **Helene L. Leichter**
Assistant To The City Manager **Melissa Stevenson Dile**
Assistant To The City Manager **Anthony Eulo**
Business Assistance/Housing Services Director **Garrett Toy**
Community Development Director **David Bischoff**
Council Services and Records Manager **Irma Torrez**
Finance Director **Jack Dilles**
Human Resources Director **Mary Kaye Fisher**
Police Chief **Gerald T. Galvin**
Public Works Director **Jim Ashcraft**
Recreation Manager **Julie Spier**

CONTACTING YOUR CITY

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8AM to 5PM
Address: 17555 Peak Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037
Animal Control 776-7300
Building Inspection 779-7241
Business Assist. & Housing Services 776-7373
City Clerk 779-7259
City Manager 779-7271
Environmental Programs 779-7247
Finance 779-7237
Fire Department (County Fire) 378-4010
Job Hotline 779-7276
Planning: Land Use / Zoning 779-7247
Police Administration 776-7315
Public Works 776-7337
Recreation 779-7271
Water 779-7221
Volunteer Programs 779-7278
City Hall Fax Number 779-3117
City Website: <http://www.morgan-hill.ca.gov>

CONTACT THE EDITOR

Questions or comments about City Visions are welcome.
Contact Editor Anthony Eulo at 779-7247 or environ@ch.morgan-hill.ca.gov.
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CITY VISIONS
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